

Dec. 2, 1961

Cuban leader Fidel Castro declared himself a Marxist-Leninist who would lead Cuba to Communism.

Nov 29, 1961

"Enos" the Chimp was launched from Cape Canaveral aboard the Mercury - Atlas 5 space craft which orbited earth twice before returning.

1961

Russia tested a thermonuclear device - 58 megatons; the world's biggest thermonuclear device

Jan. 25, 1961

Pres. Kennedy held the first
presidential news conference
carried live on radio and television

Mar 1, 1961

Pres. Kennedy established the
Peace Corps.

Oct 1, 1961

Roger Maris of the New York Yankees
hit his 61st home run during a
162-game season, compared to Babe
Ruth's 60 home runs during a
154-game season.

Dec 15, 1961

Former Nazi official Adolf
Eichmann was sentenced
to death by an Israeli court.

Apr 12, 1961

Soviet Cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the 1st man to fly in space, orbiting the earth once before making a safe landing

1961

The METER was defined as
1,650,763.73 times the
wavelength of Krypton-86 light
giving an accuracy of one part
in 100,000,000.

Later it was defined in terms of
time for light to travel from one
end to other

May 9, 1961

Federal Communications Commission
Chairman Newton W. Minor
condemned television programming
as a "vast wasteland" in a speech
to the National Association of
Broadcasters

Sept 1961

Carla, the Hurricane came
to Texas and Louisiana.

Refineries shut down; crews
were dismissed to head home &
take families to safety.

Vehicles jammed every northbound
roadway. In Lufkin and beyond
motels posted "No Vacancy".
This went on for several days

Crieping Cars, no bathrooms, worried
parents, screaming babies and
steaming radiators. Rain, wind

Jan 17, 1961

In his farewell address, Pres. Eisenhower warned against the rise of "the military-industrial complex."

Apr 26, 1961

Roger Maris of New York Yankees
hit the first of a record
61 home runs in a single
season

May 5, 1961

Astronaut Alan B. Shepard Jr. became America's first space traveler as he made a 15-minute sub-orbital flight in a capsule launched from Cape Canaveral, Fla.

Apr 17, 1961

About 1,500 CIA-trained Cuban
exiles launched the disastrous

Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba in
a failed attempt to overthrow
the government of Fidel Castro

July 21, 1961

Capt. Virgil "Gus" Grissom became
the 2nd American to rocket
into a suborbital pattern around
the Earth, flying aboard the
Liberty Bell 7.

July 2, 1961

Author Ernest Hemingway shot
himself to death at his home
in Ketchikan, Alaska.

May 20, 1961

A white mob attacked a busload of Freedom Riders in Montgomery, Ala. prompting the federal government to send U.S. marshals to restore order

June 19, 1961

The Supreme Court struck down
a provision in Maryland's
Constitution requiring state
officials to profess a belief
in God.

Sept 1, 1961

The Soviet Union ended a moratorium on atomic testing with an above ground nuclear explosion in Central Asia

Aug 15, 1961

East German workers began building
the Berlin Wall.

Aug 13, 1961

Berlin was divided as East Germany sealed off the border between the city's eastern and western sectors in order to halt the flight of refugees.

May 31, 1961

South Africa became an
independent republic.

May 17, 1961

Cuban leader Fidel Castro
offered to exchange prisoners
captured in the abortive Bay
of Pigs invasion for American
heavy tractors.

May 5, 1961

Astronaut Alan B. Shepard Jr.
became America's first space traveler
as he made a 15-minute suborbital
space flight in a capsule launched
from Cape Canaveral, Fla.

Apr 17, 1961

About 1500 CIA-trained Cuban
exiles launched the disastrous
Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba
in a failed attempt to overthrow
the government of Fidel Castro

May 5, 1961

Astronaut Alan B. Shepard Jr. became America's first space traveler as he made a 15-minute sub-orbital flight in a capsule launched from Cape Canaveral, Fla.

c 1961

Genetic Code

independent research c 1961
by American biochemists

Marshall W Nirenberg (1927-),
Robert W. Holley (1922-) and
India-born American H.
Gobind Khanna.

Aug 12-13, 1961

Berlin Wall

Through Berlin, 26.5 mi long,
the Berlin Wall was erected
in the night of Aug 12-13, 1961

Nov 9, 1989 - East German government
declared an end to restriction on
emigration and travel to the
West.

1961

Israel

Levon Affair

Eichmann Trial

"Shavit 2" Israel missile
successfully launched.

NW 16, 1961

House Speaker Samuel Rayburn
died in Bonham, TX, having
served as speaker since 1940
except for two terms.

1961

Russian Yuri Gagarin is
1st man in space.

May 4, 1961

Absolute altitude record
haunched from a U.S. Navy ship
in Gulf of Mexico, Comdr Malcolm
Ross & Lt Comdr Keith Prather
ascend to 113,740 feet in Stat-Tab V
setting a record that has stood
for nearly 4 decades. After landing
in the Gulf, Prather drowned
when his pressure suit
filled with water.

1961

Alan Shepard became 1st
American in space.

Feb 16, 1961

The U.S. launched the Explorer 9
satellite

Apr: 12, 1961

Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first man to fly in space, orbiting the earth once before making a safe landing.

Mar 1, 1961

Pres Kennedy established the Peace
Corps

1961

Thalidomide caused deformed babies born to mothers who had used Thalidomide in the early stages of pregnancy.

A Hamburg Univ. professor found the link.

Some 8000 children worldwide still live with the effects.

If thalidomide had been marketed in U.S. as originally planned, there would have been many more thousands.

Our Food & Drug Administration prevented. Dr Francis Kelsey continued to ask questions. He was not happy with Ans. "Heroine of FDA" keeps bad drug off market

1961

Duncan; Cal

World Cal - Forted Cal reform

1961-1975

Apr 30, 1975 North Vietnamese
troops marched into
Sargen

VIETNAMESE WAR

Communists support North Vietnam

U.S. Backs So Vietnam. U.S. is defeated

Battle; Gulf of Tonkin; KHE SANH; DAK TO;

PLEIKU; DANANG; MEKONG; TET

OFFENSIVE. U.S. entry of Cambodia

U.S. - South Vietnamese entry of Laos

Leaders: HO CHI MINH; PHAM VAN DONG;

WESTMORELAND; ABRAMS; KHAMH,

HUANG, KY, THIEU

Peace agreement signed 1/27/73
Fighting continued

Aug. 1964 2 U.S. destroyers were attacked

1968 Tet offensive

1969 550,000 U.S. Troops in Vietnam &
then gradual withdrawal of U.S. troops
bringing severe recession.

April 1972 - U.S. mass bombings

Coastal Fire Jan. 1973 but fighting continued

Oct. 1974 Demonstrations in Saigon

Jan 1975 North began major offensive

April 1975 Pres Thieu resigned fled to TAIWAN
Remaining Gov't of S. Vietnam surrendered

North Vietnamese entered Saigon without
opposition.

June 1976 Countries officially united

more than 50,000 U.S. Dead
400,000 dead so viet

Aug 1961

Berlin Wall

29 mile long concrete and
wire barrier built by East
German Communist

government Aug, 1961 to
stop East Berliners defecting to
West.

was later torn down

Aug 13, 1961

East Germans began building
the Berlin Wall

1961

Beginning of Aswan Dam rescue
project

Aug 12-13, 1961

the Berlin wall 26.5 Miles long
was put up as a barrier between
East and West Germany

1961

Alan Shepard (from New Hampshire)
first U.S. man in space
if only briefly

April 12, 1961

Maj. Yuri Gagarin completes the
first manned space flight by
making a one-orbital mission
aboard Soviet spacecraft VOSTOK

Sept 1961

Hurricane CARLA
level 4 storm

Hit Port O'Connor

1961

Hurricane Hattie hit British Honduras.
407 died

1961

Berlin Wall is built.

1961

Soviet launch, 1st man into
orbit around earth.

MAY 5, 1961

1st Alan B. Shepard, Jr. becomes the
American astronaut to enter
space, making a 15-minute
sub-orbital flight

AD 1961

manned spaceflight

April 1961

A Russian cosmonaut in the
VOSTOK-I capsule Circumnavigated
the world in 108 minutes

FEB 15, 1961

73 people including an 18-member
figure skating team from the
U.S. were killed in the crash
of a Sabena Airlines Boeing 707
in Belgium.

Can rent a world map
in Czechoslovakia?

Dec 11, 1961

A U.S. aircraft carrier carrying Army helicopters arrived in Saigon - the first direct American military support for South Vietnam's battle against communist guerrillas

Dec 15, 1961

Former Nazi official Adolf
Eichmann was sentenced to
death by an Israeli court

Jan 3, 1961

The U.S. severed diplomatic
relations with Cuba.

Dec 31, 1961

the Marshall Plan expired after
distributing more than \$12 billion
in foreign aid -

Nov 29, 1961

"Enos" the chimp was launched from Cape Canaveral aboard the Mercury - Atlas 5 spacecraft, which orbited Earth twice before returning

Nov. 16, 1961

House Speaker, Samuel T. Rayburn
died in Bonham, Texas, having served
as speaker since 1940 except for two terms

Oct 30, 1961

The Soviet Union tested a
Hydrogen bomb with a
force estimated at 58 megatons.

Oct 30, 1961

The Soviet Party Congress
unanimously approved a
resolution ordering the removal
of Josef Stalin's body from
Lenin's tomb.

Feb 2, 1961

The 600 passengers of a hijacked Portuguese ocean liner, the Santa Maria, were allowed to disembark in Brazil.

1961

Biochemical fuel cell
developed 1961 by American
microbiologist Frederick
D. Seiler (1916-1980)

Apr 12, 1961

YURI GAGARIN (1934-1968)

Soviet Cosmonaut became 1st man
in space when he made a
full orbit of Earth in VOSTOK I
1 hr 48 min flight

JAN 25, 1961

Pres. Kennedy conducted
the 1st presidential news
conference carried live
on radio and television

May 5, 1961

Alan B. Shepard Jr. (b-1923)

1st Amer. to pilot a spaceflight
aboard Freedom 7

Altitude 116.5 mi.

1961

New English Bible

May 25, 1961

Pres Kennedy asked the nation
to work toward putting a man
in the moon by the end of the
decade.

1961

Kennedy president of U.S.

Ghana independent
(followed by other African States)

Jan 3, 1961

The United States severed
diplomatic relations with CUBA.

Aug 12/13 1961

The Berlin Wall was put up
26.5 mi long.

till Nov 9, 1989

Sept. 1961

Hurricane Carla was the most intense storm to hit the Gulf Coast in decades when it made landfall in Sep 1961. More than 500,000 people evacuated as the storm almost completely enveloped the Gulf. The storm killed 46

people and Caused \$3 Billion
in damage.